

CHAPTER NO. 330

SENATE BILL NO. 833

By Black

Substituted for: House Bill No. 896

By Kernell, Sherry Jones

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63, Chapter 17, Part 1, relative to speech language pathology assistants.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-17-103(7), is amended by substituting the word "assistant" in place of the word "aide" and by substituting the word "assistants" in place of the word "aides" in that subdivision.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-17-105(a)(4), is amended by inserting the words "or is registered" between the words "license" and "to".

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63, Chapter 17, Part 1, is amended by adding the following language as a new section:

63-17-128. (a) No person shall engage in practice as a speech language pathology assistant unless that person has first registered with the board.

(b) A person who desires to register as a speech language pathology assistant shall provide proof that he or she meets the minimum qualifications established by the board for speech language pathology assistants in its rules and shall pay the registration fees set by the board. The minimum qualifications previously established by the board in its rules shall remain in effect unless and until amended by the board.

(c) Registration shall be valid for two (2) years. Each person registered as a speech language pathology assistant shall renew his or her registration biennially if that person desires to continue practicing as a speech language pathology assistant. The board may utilize the renewal system as described in § 63-1-107.

(d) The amount of the fees required to be paid by speech language pathology assistants in connection with their registration shall be determined by the board.

(e) The provisions of §§ 63-17-117 through 63-17-120 shall apply to speech language pathology assistants in the same way they apply to speech language pathologists.

(f) The board's rules shall require that each registered speech language pathology assistant obtain the minimum number of hours of continuing education each year which the board deems necessary to ensure the continued competence of the speech language pathology assistant.

(g) The board shall adopt rules to implement the provisions of this section in accordance with the uniform administrative procedures act, title 4, chapter 5.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: May 18, 2005


JOHN S. WILDER
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE


JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 7th day of June 2005


PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR